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# The Pennsylvania GAZETTE.

*Containing the freshest Advices Foreign and Domestick.*

## PHILADELPHIA.

*On Wednesday last His Honour the Governor sent down to the House of Representatives the following* MESSAGE, *in Answer to theirs of the 19th Instant.*

*GENTLEMEN,*

AS I find myself disappointed by your Message of the 19th Instant, in my Hopes of engaging you to put the Province into such a Posture of Defence as may be for His Majesty's Honour and your own Security, I could at this time willingly decline giving you or myself any farther Trouble on that Head; but as that Message discovers an Acrimony which I little expected from Men of your Principles, and which should be carefully avoided in all publick Debates, and as I am resolved never to fail in the Regard due to the Representative Body of the People, I think myself obliged, as far as I am capable of understanding the Reasons urged in it, to enter into the Consideration of them; tho' otherwise, I might safely leave what has pass'd between us, to the Judgment of every judicious and impartial Person, but more particularly to that of His Majesty and His Ministers, before whom it is not improbable it must shortly be laid.

As there are different Degrees of Understanding in Men, and from thence it is no uncommon Thing for Men to see the same Thing in different Lights, I flatter myself, it will be as well understood by others as myself, That altho' a Country be populous and capable of Defending itself, the Principles of a Part of the Legislature against bearing Arms, may as well subject that Country to become the Prey of an Invader, by the Legislature's refusing to oblige the Inhabitants to exert their natural Faculties, and to provide themselves with the necessary Means of Defence, as if those Inhabitants were under an absolute *Restraint*;

I am obliged to you for the particular Description you have favour'd me with, of the Situation of this Province; but had you look'd into a Map of it, you would have seen, That the *French* have a very considerable Tract of Country adjoining to it, and that they have an easy Conveyance from their principal Settlements to their Fort at *Niagara*, which is built either within the Bounds of this Province or upon the Borders of it: And if our Information be true, as there is not any Reason to doubt it, a considerable Body of them, in Conjunction with a Body of Indians, made a longer March a few Months ago, to attack some Nations of Indians to the Southward, than will be necessary to bring them even to this City. I agree with you, that there is not any Reason to apprehend, that they will attack us, *by Landing on the other Side of the* Jerseys; but you seem to have forgot, that tho' the Lower Counties are between you and the Sea, they are in as defenceless a Condition as yourselves; and that you may be attack'd that Way, unless you are assured, that they likewise will be so civil, as to be at the Expence of Arming themselves for your Defence. The Navigation of your River has been reckoned difficult, but is now so well known, that near Three Hundred Vessels come up from the Sea every Year, and return to it again in Safety. I observe the Muster you have made of the Forces of the Neighbouring Governments, and the Hopes you entertain, that they will defeat the Designs of an Enemy for you, without putting yourselves to any Expence; and could I be assured, that all the Inhabitants, principled for bearing Arms, have pass'd in Review before you, and that from thence you know they are all well armed, *and have good Reason to suppose that a considerable Number of them have been well disciplin'd and understand the Art of War*, and that you are likewise certain, that they will punctually perform their Duty without any Obligations from Law, I should agree with you, that any Attempt that shall be made upon us, will prove dangerous to our Enemy: But without these, any Man of the least Knowledge in Affairs of this Kind, must apprehend, that our Numbers will serve only to increase our Confusion. *It is true, that we have not yet any Account, that War is declared between* France *and* Great-Britain, and were there any reasonable Foundation for it, *I could hope with you, that it never may:* but other Provinces have, notwithstanding, thought it prudent to prepare against such an Event; and had you read the publick Accounts of the Transactions of the Assemblies of *Boston*, *New-York* and other Colonies in *America*, you would have known, that their Governors have not met with the same Opposition, that their Assemblies have provided for the Defence of those Governments, and that *you alone* oppose all Preparations as unnecessary.

I agree with you that good Men may *hope* for the Protection of the Supreme Being; but History both sacred and prophane shews us, that Goodness has not generally

generally ſerved to protect them from the Rage of Enemies; and the Chriſtian Religion teaches us, that much greater Rewards are reſerved for the Righteous in the next World, than any temporal Bleſſings in this.

If a Burglar acts contrary to the Laws of Chriſtianity and of the Land, in breaking open your Houſes, and by thoſe Laws you are juſtified in putting him to Death; and if a Soldier acts contrary to the Laws of Chriſtianity (as he does according to your own Principles) *and the Law of Nations*, in plundering your Houſes and murdering your Families; it will be difficult to ſhew, why you may not as juſtly put the latter to Death as the former: The Will of the Prince or the Miſtake of the Soldier, can have nothing to do in determining the moral Good or Evil of the Action.

The Number and Worth of ſuch as have already petitioned for putting the Country into a Poſture of Defence, is well known; but as the Number of ſuch as have not petitioned, and you ſay *are of the ſame Sentiments with a Majority of your Houſe*, are not known, at leaſt to me, I can make no certain Judgment of this Matter; but as the People generally form a true Judgment of their own Intereſts, when they are unbiaſſed and left to themſelves, I think it more reaſonable to conclude, that the Majority are of the ſame Opinion with the Petitioners; Many however may be terrified, if artfully applied to, with the Expence of a Fort and a Miſitia. Whenever Defence in general ſhall be agreed to, the former, if thought neceſſary (tho' poſitively pronounced by you to be of no Uſe) muſt be attended with Expence; but your publick Funds will be ſufficient to ſupply that, without raiſing One Shilling upon the People; and the latter will not be attended with any at all to the Publick, and but little to each private Man, and much leſs if they are already provided with Arms: But if a well regulated Militia can be proved, any other Way than by your own Aſſertion, to be of as little uſe, as that which depends upon the Caprice of every Man in it, I ſhall be againſt the former, and own that I have, with all others in the World, beſides yourſelves, lived to this time in an Error.

As I am not ſo well acquainted, as you ſeem to be, with what paſſes in the Neighbouring Colonies, you will excuſe my not joining with you in the handſome Compliment you are pleaſed to pay them and their Governors; and, as you have given me reaſon to hope that they will beat our Enemies for us in caſe we ſhall be ſo unfortunate as to be attacked, it will not be conſiſtent with common Policy. The Corruption of the beſt Things is the worſt. Religion itſelf has been made a Pretence for the moſt unworthy Actions; and tho' a Militia be abſolutely neceſſary for the Defence of a Country, bad Governors may have abuſed their Power; but I hope when One ſhall be thought neceſſary to be eſtabliſhed here, your Foreſight of theſe Inconveniencies will guard you againſt giving any ſuch Powers as may be made an ill Uſe of.

You ſeem to expect I ſhould be ſatisfied with your bare Aſſertion, *That the Payment of Taxes by your Friends in* England *for carrying on a War, is not parallel to the Caſe under Conſideration*; but as you have not been pleaſed to ſhew the Difference, I muſt ſtill conclude, that there is not any. My Information relating to the Affair of *Canada*, is from the Minutes of Council, where I find, That Mr. *Gookin*, then Lieutenant Governor, after having laid the Queen's Manifeſt before the Aſſembly, declaring her Deſigns againſt *Canada*, ſays in his Speech to them, "That he hopes "they will not think themſelves unconcerned, but "chearfully enable him to raiſe and ſupport the Quota "of Men aſſigned for this Province, or elſe that they "would make an Equivalent." The Aſſembly accordingly prepared in a few Days a Bill, which was paſs'd into *An Act for raiſing Two Thouſand Pounds for the Queen's Uſe, by a Tax of Five Pence half-penny per Pound, and Twenty Shillings per Head*. Was not this by way of Equivalent? And was it not for carrying on the Queen's Deſigns againſt *Canada*? and did not all the Inhabitants without Diſtinction pay that Tax? But you ſay, *This was Tribute, and to ſhew your Duty, Loyalty, and faithful Obedience to Her Majeſty; and that as a ſucceeding Governor miſapplied it, future Aſſemblies will have no great Encouragement to follow the Example*: But I hope, that future Aſſemblies will ſo little regard your Sentiments, as to take all proper Occaſions to ſhew their Duty, Loyalty, and faithful Obedience to His Majeſty and his Illuſtrious Houſe. If you deſign'd this as a Reflection upon Governors in general, and me in particular, as you muſt have done (otherwiſe there was no Occaſion to have mention'd Governors at all) as my Conduct and the Juſtice of my Adminiſtration defies all Attacks upon my Character, the Inſinuation will have no Weight with the thinking Part of Mankind.

As Actions are the beſt Evidences of a Man's Thoughts, your firſt Proprietor's Acceptance of a Military Charge, his devolving it upon his Lieutenants, and his Commiſſion to a Perſon to command a Fort at *Newcaſtle*, which I have under his own Hand-writing, are ſufficient Proofs to me of his Opinion, and, tho' I have a very high Regard for that Gentleman's Character, render it altogether unneceſſary to examine his Writings, if he has wrote on that Subject.

It may not be decent in me, to enter into a Diſpute about the Power of the Crown; but tho' the Crown may have a Right to Services particularly reſerved in the Grants of Lands in *England*, as no ſuch Services are reſerved in Grants here, the People ſeem not to be under the ſame Obligations.

Becauſe no more than two or three Hundred Men appeared under Arms in the time of a former Governor, and becauſe even that Number may not be perſuaded to do it now, as they ſee no Probability of being ſerviceable to their Country for want of being put under proper Regulations by Law; does it amount to a Proof, that there is not more than two or three Hundred in the Country for putting it into a proper Poſture of Defence? If you think it does, I believe you alone are ſo clear-ſighted as to ſee it in that Light.

The Demeanor of the People called *Quakers*, may have merited the Protection of the Crown, and the Eſteem of Mankind; and as I believe this is the firſt Inſtance, of a Number of them having made uſe of Liberty of Conſcience for tying up the Hands of his Majeſty's

Majesty's Subjects, from defending a valuable Part of his Dominions, situate almoſt in the Center of thoſe in *North-America*, I heartily wiſh, that it may not be attended with any ill Effects, either on the Minds of our Fellow-Subjects, or on the Fortunes of the People of this Province.

Had I ſtated the Argument in your next Paragraph, as you have done, I ſhould not indeed have thought the Concluſion very forcible; but as it was ſtated by me, any thing you have ſaid will not be underſtood to deſtroy the Force of it: For I believe it will be ſtill thought as little conſiſtent with Reaſon, to expect we ſhall be protected from an Enemy without preparing the neceſſary Means for Defence, as it would be to expect Grain without Sowing, or Fruit without Planting, and ſo in the other Inſtances. But I am hinder'd from entering into a more particular Diſquiſition of this Paragraph, as I have been from inſerting many other Obſervations on your laſt Extraordinary Meſſage, by the Attention I am obliged to give to a very long Bill ſent up by your Houſe, which I perceive has raiſed a conſiderable Ferment in the Minds of the Inhabitants of this City; yet if I find it neceſſary, or that it is expected from me, I ſhall be very willing to devote a much greater Share of my Time to what is ſo apparently for the Security of the People under my Government.

*Philad. Jan.* 23. 1739.

*By His Honour's Command,* *GEO. THOMAS.*

THOMAS LAWRIE, *Secr.*

A MESSAGE from the Houſe of Repreſentatives to the Governor, in anſwer to His of the 23d Inſtant.

May it pleaſe the Governor,

*WE have ſo little Delight in Controverſy, eſpecially of this kind, that it would have been much more agreeable to us, could we have thought ourſelves under no neceſſity of giving this additional Trouble. Tho' we cannot but account ourſelves very unhappy in having the Reaſons and Matters, in our laſt Meſſage, ſo miſunderſtood, that any* Acrimony, *inconſiſtent with our Principles, ſhould be diſcovered where none was intended, and where we have good Reaſon to hope, before whomſoever it may be laid, if duly conſidered, none will be found: But as ſome Concluſions have been drawn, which we are of Opinion are not really deducible from any Words contain'd in that Meſſage, we beg leave to conſider ſuch of them as we apprehend more immediately relate to the Duty we owe to the People we repreſent.*

*It is now near* Sixty *Years ſince this Province was ſettled under our firſt Proprietor; and Men of the ſame Religious Perſuaſions with thoſe profeſs'd by the Majority of this Aſſembly, have generally been as much concerned in the Magiſtracy and Aſſembly, as at preſent, and no great Inconveniences, that we know of, have ariſen from thence.*

*The Deſcription we gave of the Situation of the Province, without any Expectation of having conferr'd an Obligation on the Governor, was intended to demonſtrate the Improbability and Hazard of an attempt from* Canada, *in caſe of a War with* France; *and from any Information we have hitherto gained, we diſcover no Reaſon to change our Sentiments. Experience confirms this Truth, in our Opinion, for other Parts of the Continent have been actually attacked and ſuffered Injuries by the* French *and* Indians, *which we of this Province have hitherto eſcaped. And therefore, as it cannot be ſuppoſed they have a greater Regard for us than our Neighbours, the Difficulty and Danger ſeem to us to be the Cauſes which have deterr'd them from it, unleſs we may be allowed to think Providence, in Favour to us, has diverted their Thoughts from ſuch an Enterprize.*

*We are now become a numerous People, of different Religious Perſuaſions, many of whom are well arm'd and principled to defend their Poſſeſſions againſt an Enemy, and as ſuch it became us to leave all Men to act freely in this reſpect, as from the Dictates of their own Hearts they ſhould think was conſiſtent with their Duty to God and themſelves; And we cannot apprehend, that when they are thus left to their Liberty, the Country will be as much ſubject to become the Prey of an Invader, let the Principles of Part of the Legiſlature be what they may, as when the Inhabitants are put under an abſolute Reſtraint of providing themſelves with the neceſſary Means of Defence. However, we ſhall avoid all ſuch Remarks as may lead us into any fruitleſs Diſputes with the Governor, tho' they have ariſen and hitherto been carry'd on much againſt our Inclination; but that Part of our Meſſage which he is pleaſed to apply to himſelf, we hope cannot be conſtrued in any Senſe diſadvantageous to the Governor; and the Miſapprehenſion ſeems chiefly to ariſe from our uſing the Title of that Gentleman who appropriated to his own uſe the Money raiſed in the time of his Predeceſſor for the Service of the Queen; which could ſcarcely be avoided in Narrating a plain Matter of Fact, pointed out to us to explain, which Fact is undoubtedly true; and we are ſurpriſed to find, that our Saying this wrong Application of the Money rais'd for the Queen's Uſe could be no great Encouragement for future Aſſemblies to follow the Example, ſhould be extended to affect our Loyalty and Obedience to the King, and his Illuſtrious Houſe: But our ſteady and unſhaken Loyalty to King* GEORGE, *and his Predeceſſors, rightful Kings of* Great Britain, *and our peaceable Deportment under their Government, have rendered us (as a People) the Objects of the Compaſſion and Care of our Mother-Country: And we who, under the Influence and Protection of the preſent King, enjoy, at this diſtance, the Bleſſings of a free People, are engaged "from Principle, Gratitude and "Intereſt, on all Occaſions, to demean ourſelves as becomes "Loyal Subjects and Lovers of our Religion and Liberties."*

*Such is ours, and ſuch has always been the Demeanor of the People called* Quakers, *which tho' it may not have merited, has enjoy'd the Protection of the Crown, with the reſt of our Fellow-Subjects: And as this is not the firſt Inſtance of our Aſſemblies declining (induced as we are by their Principles and the Liberty of Conſcience granted to us by our Laws and Charter) to enact any Law, which ſhould oblige the Inhabitants of this Province to bear Arms, we agree with the Governor in deſiring our Conduct may be attended with no ill Effects; but hope and heartily wiſh it may have the ſame good Succeſs as heretofore, both on the Minds and Fortunes of the People of this Province.*

11 *mo.* 26, 1739. Signed by Order of the Houſe,

JOHN KINSEY, *Speaker.*

*BOSTON, January 7.*

On Tuesday last Capt. Mellen arrived here in about 17 Days from New-Providence, with whom came several of the Men belonging to Capt. Hall, Commander of a small Privateer Sloop of Rhode Island, who were in the late Action of Porto Plate, and by their Relation, it appears that the Plunder taken there was not so considerable as it was at first reported: It is however true that they took and dismantled the Fort, which was defended by six Cannon, two Brass and four Iron; they burnt 103 Houses, or Cottages, after having taken out of them what was thought valuable; the Candlesticks taken out of the Church, which at first were thought to be of Gold, prove to be only Silver wash'd with Gold; so that these brave Fellows, who deserv'd a better Booty, shared only about 50 Pieces of Eight a Man, of the Plunder taken there. But they have had much better Success since, in a Cruise near the Island of Cuba, where they had the good Fortune to come up with and take 3 Spanish Vessels that had on board 13 or 14,000 Pieces of Eight, which they carried into Providence, where they were lawfully condemned, and 'tis said the private Men shar'd about 300 Pieces of Eight a Man, after the Owners Shares were deducted. Capt. Mellen has brought for the said Owners, to the Value of about 4000 Pounds, which Capt. Hall shipped on board of him; it consists of two Brass Cannon, Plate, European Goods, &c. It is said, that Capt. Hall's old Company broke up at Providence, but that he, with 7 or 8 more of his Hands continued in the Vessel, and were endeavouring to increase their Number, to go upon some new Enterprizes, in which we wish them the same Success, or better, than they have formerly had, for the Honour of the English Arms in general, but especially those of the Place where they first fitted out, which have always proved terrible to, and successful against the Enemies of those Colonies.

*PHILADELPHIA.*

We hear from *New-York*, that just as the Post came away they had Advice from *Albany*, that 700 *French Indians* had lately made an Inroad into the *Mohawks* Country, some of whom took Refuge in the *English* Fort at *Oswego*; that the Enemy attack'd that Fort, but were repuls'd with great Loss, and in their Retreat were almost all cut off by the *Mohawks*.

ON *Thursday* the 21st Day of *February* ensuing, will be sold by publick Vendue at the *Coffee-House* in *Front street*, *Philadelphia*, One Twenty-Fourth Part of the Iron-Works at *Durham* in the County of *Bucks*, and of 5,900 Acres of Land belonging to the said Works; which said Twenty-fourth Part of the Iron-Works and Land aforesaid, belongs to the Estate of *Charles Read*, late of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, deceased.

SARAH READ, Administratrix.

TO BE SOLD,

A Likely young Negro Fellow, by Trade a Bricklayer and Plaisterer, has had the Small Pox. Enquire of the Printer hereof.

*ALL Persons indebted to the Estate of* Nicholas Reddish, *late of this City, Sadler, deceas'd, are desired to come and pay their respective Ballances to* William Cox, *in* Philadelphia, *Administrator to the said Estate, or they may expect trouble.*

RUN away on the 21st Inst. from *Valentine Robinson*, of *Brandewyne* Hundred, *New Castle* County, a Mulatto Girl, named *Rose Hugin*, aged about 26 Years, of middle Stature and slender, long visag'd, and well featur'd, with two or three of her fore upper Teeth out. Had on an ash-coloured homespun Gown of worsted Drugget, a striped linsey-wolsey Petticoat, good Stockings and wooden heel'd Shoes, a Platt Bonnet lined with light red Silk, good linnen Shifts, Aprons and Handkerchiefs.

Whoever takes up the said Mulatto and delivers her to *Owen Owen*, in *Philadelphia*, shall have *Twenty* Shillings Reward and reasonable Charges paid by

*January* 29. 1739,40. *Valentine Robinson.*

WHEREAS the following Effects were delivered by the Subscriber, before Evidence, to *Susannah Morris*, deceas'd, *viz.*

A Deed of a Lot of Ground Fifty Foot Front, lying in *Charlestown* in *South Carolina*.

A Deed of a Lot of Ground Ninety-six Foot Front on *Cape-Fear* River.

A Bill of Sale from *Isaac Tonacliff*, of a Brick-Kiln and Shed, two Carts and a Team of Horses.

Two Bonds of *John Jones* for One Hundred and Twenty Pounds Sterling.

Notes of Hand due to me, to the Value of Sixty-seven Pounds Proclamation Money.

A Deed of the House wherein my Wife's Sister lived, in *Philadelphia*. Also a Watch, and a Gold Grain Chain.

Whoever has the above Effects in Possession are desired to deliver them up, within a Month after Date, to the Subscriber, in Chesnut Street, otherwise they will be prosecuted with the utmost Rigour of the Law; the above Effects belonging to me, I being Administrator to them.

*Philad. Jan* 29. 1739,40. *Edward Nicholas.*

WHEREAS *Charity Hall*, Daughter of Mr. *Thomas Hall*, of the City of *Dublin*, came to this Province some Years ago, and lived upon *Brandewyne* Creek in *Chester* County: If the said *Charity Hall* be living, by applying to *William Reynolds* of *Charlestown* near Moor-Hall in *Chester* County, she may hear from her Friends and something to her Advantage.

To be SOLD, on reasonable Terms,

A TRACT of 1250 Acres of Land, formerly *Nathan Stanbury's*, in the *Great Swamp*, in *Morris* County, *West Jersey*, adjoining to Land, late *William Biddle's*, now *Samuel Johnson's*, also to a Tract on the West side of *Muskonetung* River, bounding North on *John Bowlsby's* Line: Any Person inclining to purchase, may, for further Information, apply to *Robert Jordan* in *Philadelphia*, to *Isaac Decow* in *Burlington*, or to *Edward Rockhill*, living near the Premisses.

WHEREAS Notice was sometime ago given, to all indebted to the Estate of *Thomas Sharp* (late of *Philadelphia*, Merchant, deceas'd) to pay their several Debts; and yet but few suitable Compliances made: This is further to inform all indebted, that failing their making Payment, or giving sufficient Security before the ensuing Court of *March*, they shall be sued without Exception, by *John Hopkins*, and *John Inglis*, } Administrators.

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